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The AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

MARVEL

With the Thieves Guild of New York temporarily subdued and the rift between him and Black Cat closed, Peter Parker can relax and enjoy the holiday season as much as any underemployed young adult (who also fights crime with his spider-powers)! Anyway, get ready for a relatively uneventful story, and to all a good night!

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

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GET TO WORK!

WITH J. JONAH JAMESON

SIGH

Every morning from 6 to 11 AM!

talk 616!

R. OTTLEY
Laura

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT PART 1

AH, CHRISTMAS IN NEW YORK. WHAT COULD BE BETTER?

IT'S A TIME FOR--

SHUT UP!

THE SEASON OF--

NO, YOU SHUT UP!

WHEN PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD COME TO CELEBRATE--

YOU'RE AN IDIOT!

AND CHILDREN GATHER TO HEAR STORIES OF A JOLLY OLD MAN AND HIS LISTS--

YOU LISTEN TO ME, YOU NINCOMPOOP! I'M GONNA TELL YOU ONE MORE TIME--

--SPIDER-MAN IS A HERO--

--OR MY NAME'S NOT J. JONAH JAMESON!

THAT'S RIGHT, J. JONAH JAMESON. FORMER PUBLISHER OF THE *DAILY BUGLE* AND MY OLD ARCHNEMESIS OF SORTS.

WE'VE RECENTLY HAD A CHANGE IN RELATIONSHIP STATUS--

--WHEN I REVEALED MY SECRET IDENTITY TO HIM OVER DINNER.

WHAT?! IT WAS A REALLY NICE DINNER! IT DID CHANGE EVERYTHING, BUT--

--IT'S BEEN A BLESSING AND A CURSE.

--EVERYONE IN THIS CITY OWES SPIDER-MAN A TREMENDOUS ***DEBT***, YOU HEAR ME? IT'S TIME PEOPLE KNEW THE ***FACTS!***

BUT... YOU ALWAYS SAID HE WAS THREAT AND A ***MENACE--***

I ALWAYS SAID? ARE YOU GONNA LISTEN TO WHAT I SAID, OR WHAT I'M SAYING?!

HOW MANY TIMES HAS HE SAVED YOUR UNGRATEFUL LIVES?! AND ALL YOU PEOPLE EVER GAVE HIM WAS GRIEF!

YOU GAVE HIM GRIEF--

NEXT CALLER!

YEP, THAT'S JONAH. NEW SONG--

--SAME DANCE.

AH, ANOTHER GLORIOUS MORNING DRIVE WITH MY DULCET TONES EDUCATING AND INFORMING THE MULTITUDES!

I TELL YA, BUSKIN--I WAS ***BORN*** FOR THIS JOB!

YOU CERTAINLY KNOW HOW TO PUT THE ***TALK*** IN ***TALK RADIO,*** JONAH...

HEH, IT'S JUST MY ***NATURAL CHARISMA!*** YOU SEE HOW I'VE GOT THE AUDIENCE EATING OUT OF THE PALM OF MY HAND!

YES, WHICH REMINDS ME, WE SHOULD TALK ABOUT THE RATINGS...

NO NEED! LAST I CHECKED THEY WERE THROUGH THE ROOF! PEOPLE CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF MY NO-HOLDS-BARRED STRAIGHT TALK.

AND IT'S A GOOD THING! THAT COMMITMENT TO THE TRUTH IS NEEDED NOW MORE THAN EVER--WHAT WITH THIS CROOK ***WILSON FISK*** SITTING IN THE MAYOR'S OFFICE.

OH, THAT REMINDS ME--

--THIS JUST CAME FOR YOU.

THE CENTURY CLUB... WHY, I HAVEN'T BEEN BACK THERE SINCE THEY REVOKED MY MEMBERSHIP. NOT A DAY GOES BY I DON'T MISS THAT COMPLIMENTARY LUNCH BUFFET--

WHAT DO THEY WANT? IS IT A ***BILL?***

NO--IT'S AN ***INVITATION*** FROM THE MAYOR TO A ***BANQUET--***

--IN MY ***HONOR.***

I WILL, OF COURSE, BE ON HAND ***PERSONALLY*** TO PRESENT YOU WITH AN AWARD COMMENDING YOUR DECADES OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND TO ***REGALE*** THE AUDIENCE WITH STORIES OF YOUR GOOD DEEDS AND MONUMENTAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

SOUNDS ***GREAT***, SIR.

HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO GENERATE THE MOST ***PUBLICITY*** POSSIBLE FOR THIS PRESTIGIOUS EVENT, OUR OFFICE DID HAVE AN IDEA. WE'D LIKE YOUR NEWFOUND FRIEND ***SPIDER-MAN*** TO ATTEND AS WELL, AND INTRODUCE YOU ON STAGE.

I'M CERTAIN, GIVEN YOUR INFLUENCE AND CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH THE WALL-CRAWLER, HE'LL BE ***THRILLED*** TO OBLIGE. I'VE EVEN SET ASIDE SOME TIME FOR THE THREE OF US TO HAVE SOME PICTURES TAKEN TOGETHER. TWO GREAT NEW YORK CITY MAYORS AND THE HERO WHO ***SERVES*** THEM.

YES, WHAT AN EVENING IT WILL BE...FOR ALL OF US!

I DON'T BELIEVE IT. IT'S HAPPENING...IT'S-- IT'S ACTUALLY ***HAPPENING...***

J. JONAH JAMESON IS FINALLY GETTING THE RESPECT HE ***DESERVES!***

CONGRATULATIONS, JONAH...

CONGRATULATIONS IS RIGHT! A LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD-- EVEN AT MY YOUNG AGE! WHAT AN ***HONOR!***

IT'S ABOUT ***TIME*** SOMEONE POINTS OUT HOW MUCH GOOD I'VE DONE FOR THIS CITY. IT'S LIKE I WAS JUST TELLING YOU, BUSHKIN--

--THAT WILSON FISK IS A ***GREAT MAYOR!***

MEANWHILE, THIS IS MY CHRISTMAS.

WITH ALL THE BIG SUPER VILLAIN ATTACKS IN THE NEWS, PARENTS HAVE BEEN STRUGGLING TO FIND A WAY TO REASSURE THEIR KIDS--

--SO THIS TOY COMPANY CREATED A LINE OF DOLLS TO SHOW OFF THE SOFTER SIDES OF ALL YOUR FAVORITE WORLD-THREATENING MENACES.

GALACTUS HUNGERS...FOR FRIENDSHIP!

FEELS LIKE A *MIXED MESSAGE* TO ME--

--BUT THE THINGS ARE A HIT! LIKE A "TICKLE ME ELMO"-LEVEL HIT.

WHICH MEANS SOME PARENTS (OR IS IT eBAY SPECULATORS?) ARE WILLING DO TRULY UNCONSCIONABLE THINGS TO GET THEIR HANDS ON ONE. LIKE, FOR INSTANCE--

--HIRING MONSTROUS SUPER VILLAINS TO *STEAL* IT FOR THEM!

I KNOW, I KNOW. THE *IRONY.*

AH WELL, GUESS I BETTER TAKE CARE OF THIS--'TIS THE SEASON, RIGHT?

AND WITH HIPPO HERE OUT OF COMMISSION--

--I CAN MAKE SURE AT LEAST ONE OF THOSE DOLLS ENDS UP IN THE RIGHT HANDS.

HERE YOU GO, LITTLE GUY.

AND MAYBE THAT WILL HELP REMIND SOME OF THOSE PEOPLE DOWN THERE WHAT THE HOLIDAYS ARE REALLY ALL ABOUT--

OR NOT.

WE'LL START THE BIDDING AT TWO HUNDRED! DO I HEAR TWO HUNDRED FIFTY? TWO FIFTY--

AH WELL--

--SOME PEOPLE STILL GET IT.

HO HO HO! HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Merry C AS

LIKE *ROBBIE ROBERTSON* HERE-- EDITOR IN CHIEF OF THE *DAILY BUGLE*, PILLAR OF THE COMMUNITY--

--AND MY FORMER BOSS.

COME ON IN! GOOD TO SEE YA, PETE--

YOU TOO, ROBBIE. SORRY I'M LATE--BUT I DID BRING YOU...

...SOMETHING.

YEESH, SORRY. SUBWAY WAS PRETTY CROWDED.

FROM ~~PETE~~ SANTA

DON'T SWEAT IT. MARTHA WANTS ME TO STAY AWAY FROM THE SWEETS ANYHOW. SAYS I'M GETTING SOFTER THAN HER FAVORITE PILLOW.

THANKS AGAIN FOR THE INVITE, BY THE WAY. I WASN'T SURE YOU'D REALLY WANT TO SEE ME AFTER--

YOU MEAN AFTER I FIRED YOUR BUTT?

PETE, COME ON. I TOLD YOU, I KNOW THERE'S MORE TO THAT STORY. I BELIEVE YOU, EVEN IF NOBODY ELSE DOES. I JUST--

--HAVE TO PROTECT THE *BUGLE*.

EXACTLY. BUT NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS AT THE OFFICE-- YOU'RE STILL ***FAMILY*** HERE.

SPEAKING OF, I JUST GOT OFF THE PHONE WITH BETTY BRANDT. SHE SENDS HER LOVE.

SHE STILL ON ASSIGNMENT IN EUROPE, CHASING THAT BIG HEADLINE?

THAT'S HER.

LORD KNOWS WE COULD USE IT RIGHT NOW.

THINGS STILL DICEY AT THE PAPER?

TO SAY THE LEAST. SAY, YOU DON'T STILL KEEP IN TOUCH WITH ANY OF THOSE BIG-TIME RICH INVESTORS FROM BACK IN YOUR PARKER INDUSTRIES DAYS, DO YOU?

AHH... SADLY THEY DON'T SEEM TO RETURN MY CALLS ANYMORE.

YEAH, MINE EITHER. AND STUFF LIKE THIS ISN'T *HELPING*.

WHERE THE DAILY BUGLE'S J. JONAH JAMESON IS SET TO BE HONORED BY MAYOR FISK--

AND SPIDER-MAN IS GONNA BE THERE, I GUARANTEE IT!

YOU HEAR ME, SPIDER-MAN?!

JAMESON WANTS SPIDER-MAN TO PRESENT HIM WITH AN AWARD FROM THE KINGPIN?!

THIS IS WHY THE INVESTORS WON'T COME NEAR THE *BUGLE*. TRY AS I MIGHT, WE'RE STILL ASSOCIATED WITH JONAH'S ANTICS.

MEANWHILE, CIRCULATION KEEPS DROPPING BECAUSE WE DON'T TRAFFIC IN HIS TABLOID SENSATIONALISM ANYMORE. IT'S A LOSE-LOSE SITUATION.

NOT TO MENTION THE MAN WON'T EVEN ***SPEAK*** TO ME, SINCE HE STILL BELIEVES IT'S "HIS" PAPER. IT'S ALWAYS ABOUT HIMSELF WITH JONAH...

GEEZ, ROBBIE--I'M-- I'M REALLY SORRY. BUT THIS REMINDS ME--

--I'M NOT GONNA BE ABLE TO STAY AS LONG AS I'D LIKE. *UM*, AUNT MAY NEEDS ME--

--TO SET J. JONAH JAMESON STRAIGHT ON SOME THINGS!

OH NO, NOT YOU, TOO! MARTHA IS AWAY VISITING HER SISTER--

--AND NOW THIS ONE SAYS HE'S DITCHING ME FOR A HOT DATE! WHO AM I GONNA WATCH *IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE* WITH?

SORRY, POP. THIS ONE'S A KEEPER. BUT I DID WASTE AWAY ALL AFTERNOON IN THE KITCHEN ON THIS TURKEY FOR YOU.

YOU JUST GOTTA EAT IT FAST, IS ALL.

YOU HEAR THAT? PETE, YOU'RE HIS ROOMIE, WHO'S THIS GIRL RANDY WON'T STOP NOT TALKING ABOUT?

WISH I COULD TELL YOU, SIR...

ALL RIGHT THEN, KNUCKLEHEADS. SEEING AS YOU'RE SO BUSY--

--LET'S MAKE THE MOST OF OUR TIME TOGETHER.

NOW THIS IS MORE LIKE THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT. FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND--

ARCADE INDUSTRIES!

TELL ALL YOUR CRIMINAL ASSOCIATES AND GET TEN PERCENT OFF THROUGH OUR REFERRAL PROGRAM! BUT FOR RIGHT NOW--

--I TRUST EVERYTHING IS TO YOUR LIKING? YOU DID THE HARD HAT TOUR?

I DID. AND I APPRECIATE YOUR ATTENTION TO DETAIL--

HEY, DON'T MENTION IT. IT WAS MY **PLEASURE** ACTUALLY. MOST PEOPLE IN YOUR POSITION, THEY JUST DON'T APPRECIATE A GOOD ELABORATE DEATH TRAP ANYMORE-- TASTES CHANGE, I GUESS...

BUT THAT'S WHY I'M OFFERING FOLKS LIKE YOURSELF THIS **STARTER** PACKAGE. IF YOU WANNA UP THE BODY COUNT, THOUGH, IT'LL COST YA...

UNDERSTOOD. BUT THERE'S ONLY ONE MAN I'M AFTER.

NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME--

--THE PARTY'S JUST ABOUT TO START.

WE'RE HERE, MR. JAMESON.

WONDERFUL! BOY, I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE THE FACES OF ALL THOSE HIGH SOCIETY CENTURY CLUB TWITS WHEN THEY SEE I'M BACK--THAT'LL TEACH THEM TO REVOKE MY MEMBERSHIP FOR POOR GYM HYGIENE!

THAT'S NICE, JONAH. BUT WAS THE *LIMO* NECESSARY? IT'S QUITE AN EXPENSE.

NONSENSE! WE NEEDED TO SHOW UP IN *STYLE*. LET THEM KNOW--

--J. JONAH JAMESON IS *BACK!*

YOU SURE ARE.

WHY, THIS IS JUST LIKE THE OLD DAYS, IF YOU ASK ME.

SPIDER-MAN! WHY YOU--

YOU WHAT?!

YOU INVITED ME HERE, REMEMBER, JONAH?

OH, RIGHT. FORCE OF HABIT.

IT'S FINE--

--BUT WE DO NEED TO TALK.

I THOUGHT THEY WAS FRIENDS NOW.

I THINK IT'S A PRETTY... UNUSUAL RELATIONSHIP.

WHAT DO YOU WANT? MAKE IT QUICK, WE NEED TO GET IN THERE BEFORE THE COMPTROLLER HOGS ALL THE GOOD CHARCUTERIE.

I'M NOT GOING IN THERE. THAT'S WHAT I CAME TO TELL YOU, JONAH.

WHAT?! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! YOU *OWE* ME, PARKER--

HEY, KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN WITH THE *ARKER-PAY!* I *OWE* YOU? ARE YOU *KIDDING* ME?

YOU'RE DARN RIGHT YOU DO! ALL I'VE TRIED TO DO SINCE I LEARNED YOUR DIRTY LITTLE SECRET IS HELP YOU! YOU NEED ME!

I'M OUT THERE EVERY DAY TRYING TO REPAIR YOUR DISASTER OF A REPUTATION--

MY--YOU'RE THE ONE WHO *DISASTERED* IT IN THE *FIRST PLACE*--

BYGONES! I'M DOING MY BEST TO MAKE THAT RIGHT. BUT YOU--YOU WON'T EVEN RETURN MY CALLS ANYMORE. WE WERE SUPPOSED TO BE *PARTNERS!*

LOOK, JONAH, I TOLD YOU... THINGS ARE JUST A LITTLE CRAZY RIGHT NOW. I NEED TO FIGURE HOW THIS WOULD WORK--

LET ME TELL YOU HOW PARTNERSHIPS WORK, THEN, KID--WHEN I ASK YOU FOR ONE MEASLY FAVOR, YOU COME THROUGH!

SIGH I WISH I COULD, JJ, BUT--COME ON, DUDE, IT'S THE *KINGPIN!*

HE'S YOUR *MAYOR!* BESIDES--

--I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU'D BE SO UPSET ABOUT THAT. I'VE SEEN THE WAY YOU'VE BEEN COZYING UP WITH FISK SINCE HE GOT ELECTED.

WHY DOES EVERYONE KEEP SAYING THAT?!

WILSON FISK IS A CRIMINAL AND A *MONSTER*. FOR ALMOST AS LONG AS I'VE BEEN SPIDER-MAN, I'VE BEEN FIGHTING HIM.

HOW CAN PEOPLE THINK I WOULD *EVER* BE ON HIS SIDE?

WHY DO YOU KEEP LOOKING BEHIND ME?

SERIOUSLY, IF YOU TRUST ME ON ONE THING, MAKE IT THIS--NO MATTER WHAT HE OFFERED ME, NO MATTER WHAT HE PROMISED--

--I WOULD NEVER BE CAUGHT *DEAD* STANDING NEXT TO THE KINGPIN. I *HATE* THE GUY.

I ♥ FISK

RE-ELECT FISK

=

...THAT'S PHOTOSHOP.

WELL, TOO BAD! I'M NOT GONNA MISS MY MOMENT IN THE SPOTLIGHT OVER SOME PETTY *GRUDGE* YOU'RE NURSING!

IT'S HIGH TIME I WAS RECOGNIZED FOR ALL MY ACCOMPLISHMENTS! AT LEAST *SOMEONE* SEES THAT!

UNBELIEVABLE, IT'S JUST LIKE ROBBIE SAID, IT REALLY *IS* ALWAYS ABOUT YOU...

ROBBIE ROBERTSON?! THAT TURNCOAT! I SHOULD'VE KNOWN YOU WERE IN CAHOOTS WITH HIM--THAT MAN STOLE THE *DAILY BUGLE* FROM ME!

YOU *GAVE* IT TO HIM!

AND THEN HE TURNED AROUND AND REFUSED TO PUBLISH MY HARD-HITTING INVESTIGATION INTO YOUR CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES!

WELL, *TOO BAD!* EVEN THOUGH NOBODY EVEN READS THAT PAPER SINCE I LEFT! HE'S UNGRATEFUL--

--JUST LIKE *YOU!* WELL, I DON'T NEED *EITHER* OF YOU. FROM HERE ON OUT, J. JONAH JAMESON WALKS ALONE.

OR...

...HE DOESN'T WALK *AT ALL.*

WEBS. JAMESON.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE ENFORCERS.

HO HO HO.

SPIDER-MAN! GET THEM!

SIGH "GET THEM"? OKAY, FINE--BUT NOT BECAUSE YOU TOLD ME TO.

THE ENFORCERS.

AN OLD-SCHOOL TRIO OF MOB HEAVIES WHO ALWAYS LOOK LIKE THEY ROBBED THE WORLD'S LAMEST COSTUME SHOP.

THEY WERE SOME OF THE FIRST BAD GUYS I EVER FACED AS SPIDER-MAN--

--I LIKE TO THINK I'VE COME A LONG WAY SINCE THEN.

THEN AGAIN, *THESE* DAYS?

EVERYONE'S A CRITIC.

YOU MISSED ONE!

MISSED-- JONAH, GET BACK IN THE LIMO! I CAN'T KEEP AN EYE ON--

EVEN MYSELF, APPARENTLY.

SO YEAH, THIS IS HOW WHAT *SHOULD* BE AN EASY FIGHT--

GETS *COMPLICATED.* EVERY TIME I GET THE UPPER HAND, I GET THIS IN MY EAR--

WATCH OUT BEHIND YOU, YOU'RE NOT PAYING ATTENTION!

WHICH I'LL ADMIT--

--IS STARTING TO GET ME ANGRY!

JONAH, WHAT DID I SAY?! BACK IN THE LIMO!

STILL A TOUGH LITTLE *HOMBRE,* AIN'T HE?

HUFF-- TIRED OF THE TWERP, MYSELF. FEELS LIKE NOTHIN' WE EVER DO CAN PUT HIM DOWN.

THAT'S 'CAUSE YOU BOYS ARE GOING ABOUT IT ALL WRONG. REMEMBER. IF YOU CAN'T BEAT 'EM--

--GIVE 'EM SOMETHIN' TO MOURN.

JONAH!

SEE?

THIS IS WHY I DON'T WANT A PARTNER.

SOME *COJONES* ON YOU, FANCY DAN.

EH, NOT REALLY. SHOOTING BLANKS. AFTER ALL--

"--BOSS WANTS 'EM *ALIVE* FOR THE NEXT PART."

WAKE UP!

JUST LIKE YOUR LAZY GENERATION, SLEEPING ON THE JOB.

UGH... THROWBACK THURSDAYS WERE A MISTAKE...

PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER. WE NEED TO COME UP WITH A PLAN. YOU GOT US INTO THIS MESS, NOW YOU NEED TO GET US *OUT*.

UHH, JONAH--

--I DON'T THINK THIS ONE'S *MY* FAULT...

J. JONAH JAMESON--

--THIS IS YOUR STORY!

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R. OTTLEY

Laura

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT PART 2

ME AND J. JONAH JAMESON HAVE BEEN THROUGH A *LOT* TOGETHER.

DESPITE BEING SWORN ENEMIES FOR THE LONGEST TIME, WE HAD AN ANNOYING KNACK FOR NEEDING TO BAIL EACH OTHER OUT OF THE DIREST SITUATIONS.

STILL, NONE OF THOSE CAN QUITE COMPARE TO *THIS*, I'D ARGUE.

AFTER ALL--

--WE'RE LATE FOR DINNER!

CENTURY CLUB

EHH, MR. MAYOR, THE CEREMONY WAS SUPPOSED TO BEGIN AN *HOUR* AGO. PERHAPS WE SHOULD--

WAIT!

WE WILL WAIT. I KNOW J. JONAH JAMESON. THERE'S ***NO WAY*** THAT FOOL AVOIDS A SPOTLIGHT LIKE ***THIS*** ONE. LIKE A MOTH TO A FLAME...

AND WHEN HE ARRIVES, HE'LL BRING SPIDER-MAN. THAT WEBBED CRETIN WON'T ***DARE*** RISK HIS NEWFOUND ALLIANCE WITH HIS GREATEST ENEMY.

IT WILL BE A WONDERFUL PHOTO OP, WON'T IT? JAMESON, SPIDER-MAN, AND ***ME***--ARMS AROUND EACH OTHER FOR THE WHOLE WORLD TO SEE...

INCLUDING ALL THE WALL-CRAWLER'S VIGILANTE FRIENDS.

SO YES, THESE PEOPLE WILL WAIT.

YES, MR. MAYOR. BUT... CAN WE AT LEAST SERVE THE CHICKEN?

NO. THEY WILL MAKE DO WITH THE SALAD BAR.

WHEN KINGPIN GOES VEGAN, THE ***WHOLE CITY*** GOES VEGAN...

ON SECOND THOUGHT, MAYBE WE CAN SKIP DINNER.

TOUGH TO HAVE AN APPETITE WHEN YOU'RE IN TROUBLE THIS DEEP.

IT STARTED WHEN MY FORMER BOSS AND EVEN-MORE FORMER *ARCHNEMESIS* HERE GOT AN INVITATION.

APPARENTLY THE *KINGPIN*--STILL *MAYOR OF NEW YORK* SOMEHOW--WANTED TO GIVE HIM A BIG HONOR ON ONE CONDITION--

--*I* HAD TO BE THE ONE TO PRESENT IT TO HIM! WHICH OF COURSE I WOULD *NEVER* DO...

...BECAUSE I AM *TERRIFIED* OF PUBLIC SPEAKING!

THANKFULLY THE *ENFORCERS* SHOWED UP, SO I GOT TO PUNCH PEOPLE INSTEAD.

BUT THAT WENT SOUTH, SADLY--

--LEADING US...WHEREVER HERE IS.

HOW DO YOU KEEP GETTING ME IN THESE MESSES?!

ME?! DID YOU NOT HEAR THAT *MYSTERY VOICE?* IT DISTINCTLY SAID "J. JONAH JAMESON, THIS IS *YOUR* STORY!"

YEAH! EXACTLY! *MY* STORY IS *YOU'RE* ALWAYS GETTING ME INTO MESSES!

YOU AND I ARE GONNA HAVE A LONG TALK ABOUT THIS NEW PARTNERSHIP OF OURS, JONAH...

JUST AS SOON AS WE SHAKE THESE--

--SUPER VILLAINS.

WHERE'D THEY GO?

IT STARTS FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS...

A YOUNG BOY ABANDONED BY HIS BIOLOGICAL FATHER.

IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT, JONAH. MY BROTHER AND HIS WIFE WILL TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOU.

BUT THEY DIDN'T--

I TOLD YOU NOT TO TALK BACK TO ME!

--HE GREW UP IN A TOUGH, BROKEN HOME. WITH SO MUCH ADVERSITY AT SUCH A YOUNG AGE, HE COULD'VE SIMPLY FADED INTO THE BACKGROUND.

BUT **NO!** THROUGH SHEER WILLPOWER, HE PULLED HIMSELF UP BY HIS BOOTSTRAPS AND FOUND HIS TRUE CALLING--

--JOURNALISM!

FIRST AS A MILITARY CORRESPONDENT, THEN ON TO HIS HOME AT THE DAILY BUGLE. HE BECAME THE VOICE OF A CITY, A FEARLESS SPEAKER OF TRUTHS-- HE IS--

J.! JONAH! JAMESON! JUNIOR!

WHAT-- WHAT *IS* THIS?

I DON'T KNOW...

...BUT I *LIKE* IT!

OH GOD.

IT'S A MUSEUM OF JONAH.

THIS IS MY WORST NIGHTMARE.

"OH, YOU HAVE NO IDEA, SPIDER-MAN..."

...AND THIS NIGHTMARE IS JUST BEGINNING.

YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN-- LMDs, HOLOGRAPHIC PROJECTIONS, MIND-ALTERING GAS COMPOUNDS TO INDUCE SHARED HALLUCINATIONS, THIS WHOLE SETUP IS A DOOZY!

AND THEY HAVEN'T EVEN GOTTEN TO THE BEST STUFF YET--THEY'RE JUST COMING UP TO THE **INTERACTIVE** EXHIBITS! I CAN'T WAIT--

AND NEITHER CAN I, ***ARCADE.*** SOON J. JONAH JAMESON WILL KNOW THE ***TRUTH...***

...AND SPIDER-MAN WILL BE ***NO MORE.*** THE ROOM IS READY?

JUST LIKE YOU ORDERED.

GOOD. BUT BEFORE WE HAVE TOO MUCH FUN--

--I NEED TO PUT ON MY SUIT.

YOU REALIZE THIS IS A DEATH TRAP, RIGHT?

YOU DON'T KNOW THAT! IT COULD BE A ***REWARD*** TRAP! AN ***ENCOURAGEMENT*** TRAP! WHOEVER DID THIS OBVIOUSLY HAS GREAT TASTE. JUST LOOK AT--

WAAAH! WAAAH!

--THAT.

I--I KNOW THIS PLACE. IT'S OUR OLD NURSERY. AND THAT BABY...

THESE WERE SOME OF JONAH'S HAPPIEST DAYS...

IT'S MY SON, *JOHN!* LOOK AT 'IM, WEB-HEAD! YOU EVER SEE A CUTER BOY?

HE'S A LOT LESS HAIRY THAN I REMEMBER.

GOOCHIE GOOCHIE GOO...

I WILL ADMIT, THIS BABY'S ROOM DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE ANY BLASTER CANNONS OR SPIKED WALLS...

OF *COURSE* IT DOESN'T! JOAN WOULDN'T EVEN LET HIM HAVE A--

BLAM!

BUT THEN TRAGEDY STRUCK...

JOAN!

...WHEN HIS FIRST WIFE WAS KILLED BY A MASKED GUNMAN.

I WASN'T THERE. I WASN'T THERE TO *PROTECT* HER. I WAS AT--

CLACK CLACK CLACK

--THE OFFICE. MY OLD DESK--IT'S A PERFECT RECREATION...

AFTER JOAN'S DEATH, JONAH POURED HIMSELF INTO HIS WORK. HE CLIMBED UP THE RANKS FROM LOWLY REPORTER--

--ALL THE WAY TO THE **EDITOR IN CHIEF'S** CHAIR AT THE DAILY BUGLE!

IT WASN'T EASY--ESPECIALLY RAISING JOHN ON MY OWN...

BUT HE RAISED HIM RIGHT...

...AND JOHN BECAME A FINE MAN OF HIS OWN! A CELEBRATED ASTRONAUT TASKED WITH A VITAL EXPERIMENTAL MISSION!

I WAS SO *PROUD.* MY BOY, UP IN THE STARS...

ALWAYS WONDERED WHAT IT WAS LIKE IN ONE OF THESE THINGS.

YEAH, NOT ME. TRUST ME, I'VE BEEN TO OUTER SPACE. EVERYONE'S REALLY *RUDE.*

BUT THEN *DANGER* STRUCK--

--AND SO BEGAN THE GREAT BATTLE THAT WOULD *DEFINE* J. JONAH JAMESON'S LIFE. HIS ETERNAL CRUSADE TO MAKE KNOWN THE EVILS OF--

RUUUMBBOLLEE

AAAAND THIS IS THE PART WHERE IT GETS AWKWARD.

--THAT WEBBED MENACE, SPIDER-MAN!

DAILY BUGLE

MENACE!

DAILY BUGLE

WEBBED PEST WRECKS WALL STREET

SPIDER-CRIMI

DAILY BUGL

CRIMINAL MASTERMIND, IRRESPONSIBLE AND JUVENILE PRANKSTER--HE WAS TO BECOME JAMESON'S GREATEST ENEMY.

OH COME ON.

WHAT?! YOU WERE A CRIMINAL!

AGAIN AND AGAIN, HE TRIED TO WARN THEM--OF THE RECKLESS, PERVASIVE EVIL THE WALL-CRAWLER PRESENTED!

HOW HIS VERY PRESENCE WAS AN AFFRONT TO SOCIETY AND A SIGN OF OUR DECAYING GREATNESS!

HOW HIS EXISTENCE WOULD LEAD TO IMMEASURABLE DEATH AND DESTRUCTION.

OKAY, I'LL ADMIT I MAY HAVE OVERSTATED SOME THINGS.

BUT NO MATTER WHAT JONAH DID, SOME STILL ACCEPTED THIS INTERLOPER, THIS FRAUD! EVEN REAL HEROES!

ALAS, HE WAS LEFT WITH NO CHOICE--

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--HE HAD TO TAKE MATTERS INTO HIS OWN HANDS.

GOOD NEWS, MR. JAMESON! THE SCORPION FORMULA IS NEARLY COMPLETE--

--AND OUR TEST SUBJECT WILL SOON BE ABLE TO RID THE WORLD OF SPIDER-MAN ONCE AND FOR ALL!

GARGAN... GEEZ, JONAH. MAYBE HE WAS A BAD GUY, BUT--THIS?

I--I THOUGHT IT WAS *NECESSARY*...

BUT THAT WAS ONLY THE ***BEGINNING*** OF HIS EFFORTS...

THE SPIDER-SLAYER WILL OBEY YOUR EVERY COMMAND, JONAH! WHY, YOU CAN EVEN PILOT IT *YOURSELF!*

WOW...AN ORIGINAL MODEL. HAVEN'T SEEN ONE OF THESE IN YEARS...

HEY!

HEH. STILL GOT IT...

THERE WERE OTHER ATTEMPTS, NONE SUCCESSFUL.

OH COME ON! THAT ONE WASN'T EVEN REALLY ME!

DEACON ***FORCED*** POOR FARLEY TO GIVE HIM FLY POWERS AT ***GUNPOINT!***

BUT THEN, A MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH--

--WHEN JONAH MET THE SECOND LOVE OF HIS LIFE.

MARLA!

THIS NEW ITERATION OF THE SPIDER-SLAYER WILL SURELY MEET YOUR NEEDS, JONAH.

SHE DIDN'T LIKE ME MUCH AT FIRST. HATED THE *CIGARS*...

BUT WE BONDED OVER LONG NIGHTS IN THE LAB, FANTASIZING ABOUT ALL THE WAYS WE COULD KILL YOU--*ER*, I MEAN, *BRING* YOU TO *JUSTICE!*

YEAH-- *UNFF*--A REAL STORYBOOK ROMANCE! LIKE A STEPHEN KING NOVEL!

I'D BEEN ALONE FOR SO LONG... MEETING HER, IT WAS LIKE ALL MY DREAMS CAME TRUE. AND THEN ONE DAY SHE WAS JUST-- JUST--

GONE...

AND SHE WASN'T THE *ONLY* PERSON HE'D LOSE...

HE WAS REUNITED WITH HIS BIOLOGICAL FATHER ONLY TO SEE **HIM** DIE.

DAD...

HE LOST ONE OF HIS BEST FRIENDS AND REPORTERS TO **DIRECTLY** SPIDER-RELATED VIOLENCE...

FOSWELL!

TESSA... I'M...I'M SO SORRY. FREDERICK, HE WAS--

DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT YOU SAID TO US, JONAH? YOU SAID NO MATTER WHAT--

FREDERICK FOSWELL

THAT WEBBED MENACE WILL *DIE* FOR WHAT HE DID...

BUT THEN SOMETHING HAPPENED-- SOMETHING TERRIBLE-- AFTER YEARS OF FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT--

VOTE JJJ.

HE BETRAYED US!

TRAITOR

SPIDER-MAN IS A HERO!

THE MAN WHO LED US INTO THIS FIGHT NOW CONSORTS WITH THE ENEMY!

HE EVEN HELPS HIM CARRY OUT HIS CRIMINAL EXPLOITS!

HMM... I WOULDN'T EXACTLY SAY YOU HELP...

AFTER A LIFETIME OF NOBLE EFFORT, HE HAS DESTROYED HIS LEGACY AND TURNED HIS BACK ON HIS CITY!

HOW *DARE* YOU ACCUSE ME OF SUCH THINGS AND SLANDER MY NAME, YOU OBNOXIOUS *BLOWHARD?*

YEAH, HOW DARE HE... MUST BE *AWFUL.*

WORSE THAN THAT, HE ENDANGERS US **ALL** WITH HIS ALLIANCE WITH THE WEB-SLINGER! FOR **THAT**, THERE CAN BE NO FORGIVENESS!

J. JONAH JAMESON...

...THIS IS WHERE YOUR STORY ENDS!

I WAS WONDERING WHERE THESE GUYS HAD GONE...

YOU REALIZE WHAT THIS *IS?*

QUIET!

NO, I'M JUST SAYING--OLD GROUCHY RICH GUY GETS A VISIT FROM GHOSTS OF HIS PAST, AT CHRISTMAS, CAUSING HIM TO REFLECT ON HIS LIFE?

I FEEL LIKE I'VE SEEN THIS MOVIE BEFORE!

BIG FAN OF THE MUPPET VERSION.

AW, YOU NEVER KNOW, THOUGH, WEB-HEAD--

--MIGHT END DIFFERENT THIS TIME. DON'T REMEMBER SCROOGE GETTING HIS HEAD RIPPED OFF BY A SCORPION TAIL.

EH, THERE'S A LOT OF TAKES. HEY, GARGAN--THE REST OF THESE CLOWNS ARE EITHER LMDs OR CLONES, BUT *YOU* SMELL LIKE THE REAL THING.

OH YEAH, I'M *REAL.*

REAL ANGRY!

OOF! GARGAN STILL PACKS A PUNCH. BAD GUYS EVERYWHERE NOW...

...TOO MANY OF THEM. GOTTA SAY, THOUGH, IF I'M GONNA DIE BY SPIDER-SLAYER, AT LEAST THEY'RE NOT BEING PILOTED BY--

WAIT, THAT'S *IT!* IF THESE SLAYERS ARE AS AUTHENTIC AS THEY *SEEM* TO BE--

--THEY SHOULD RESPOND TO COMMANDS FROM THEIR *OLD* OWNER!

JONAH! UNFF--THE *REMOTE*-- *GET* IT! YOU CAN--

I KNOW WHAT TO DO!

YOU REMEMBER HOW TO PILOT ONE?

OF COURSE I DO--

--I PRACTICALLY *INVENTED* THESE THINGS! JUST ONE OF THE *MANY* MANIFESTATIONS OF MY CREATIVE GENIUS.

GOTCHA!

NOW TO JUST ACTIVATE THE NETWORK FEATURES...

SPIDER-SLAYERS-- LISTEN TO YOUR MASTER! ATTACK!

HAHA! SEE! I DO STILL *GOT* IT!

WHADDAYA KNOW, GUESS HE DOES. TROUBLE FOR YOU IS--

--SO DO I!

I'LL ADMIT--THIS WHOLE EXPERIENCE IS REALLY TAKING ME BACK.

TRUTH IS, JONAH AND I HAVE HAD A PRETTY TORTURED HISTORY.

FOR YEARS, WE WERE AT EACH OTHER'S *THROATS.*

BUT THAT WAS THEN--

--THIS IS NOW!

EVER SINCE I REVEALED MY IDENTITY TO JJJ, HE'S BEEN TRYING TO CHANGE...

BUT I HAVE TO DO MY PART, TOO.

WHICH STARTS WITH NOT LETTING THE SCORPION KILL HIM!

THING I KEEP COMING BACK TO LATELY--

--WE ALL DESERVE A SECOND CHANCE. THE TRICK--

--IS FIGURING OUT HOW TO LET THE PAST GO!

OR KNOCK IT UNCONSCIOUS. ONE OF THE TWO.

OKAY, WELL, IF *THAT* WRAPS THE WORLD'S WORST EPISODE OF *BIOGRAPHY*--

CONGRATULATIONS!

HOPE YOU ENJOYED THE OPENING ACT. TIME TO HAVE SOME REAL FUN, THOUGH.

NOW THAT THE *BIG MAN* IS BACK!

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LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT PART 3

I'VE BEEN WORKING A LOT ON THE RELATIONSHIPS IN MY LIFE LATELY.

TRYING TO RECONNECT WITH LOST FRIENDS, BUILD BRIDGES, THAT KIND OF THING.

BUT I DON'T KNOW THAT THERE'S *ANYBODY* IN MY LIFE WHO I HAVE A MORE COMPLICATED RELATIONSHIP WITH THAN *THIS* GUY--

--J. JONAH JAMESON.

MY FORMER BOSS AT THE *DAILY BUGLE* AND ALL-AROUND ARCHNEMESIS. UNTIL ***RECENTLY***, THAT IS--

--WHEN I REVEALED MY SECRET IDENTITY TO HIM. SINCE THEN, WE'VE BEEN IN THIS WEIRD WORKING PARTNERSHIP. IT WAS GOING OKAY IF A LITTLE AWKWARD, ALL THINGS CONSIDERED--

--BUT THEN HE DEMANDED I GO TO SOME PARTY THE KINGPIN WAS THROWING HIM...

THANKFULLY SOMETHING ELSE CAME UP.

THE ***ENFORCERS***, SOME OLD-SCHOOL BADDIES WITH A REAL DISCOUNT-COSTUME-STORE VIBE, GOT THE BETTER OF US SOMEHOW--

--LANDING ME AND JONAH ***HERE***.

WHEREVER "HERE" IS...

THIS ISN'T JUST A PLACE WHERE A GIANT-SIZED VERSION OF THE *BIG MAN* TAKES SHOTS AT ME--

--IT'S ALSO A *MUSEUM* DEDICATED TO JONAH HIMSELF! AND YOU THOUGHT YOU KNEW WHAT HORROR WAS.

YES, I'LL ADMIT IT'S ALL LEFT ME A LITTLE DISCOMBOBULATED.

UNSURPRISINGLY, THE WHOLE PLACE TURNED HOMICIDAL, LETTING LOOSE A BUNCH OF SPIDER-SLAYERS, HUMAN FLIES, AND SCORPIONS ON US.

WE GOT OUT OF IT, THOUGH, WHEN JONAH WAS ABLE TO TURN THE SLAYERS TO OUR SIDE USING THEIR OLD PROGRAMMING. SURE GOT LUCKY THERE. TROUBLE IS--

EVERYBODY'S

OOOFF!

LUCK

UNFFF!

RUNS

CRASH

OUT

ARRGGH!

I'VE GOT YOU NOW, YOU *WEBBED MENACE!*

EVENTUALLY.

LOOK, JONAH! LOOK AT HIM *SQUIRM!* HE'S MINE NOW!

IT'S JUST LIKE YOU SAID.

SOMEDAY, HE'D MAKE A MISTAKE--

--AND I'LL BE THERE WAITING.

THOSE WORDS-- I *DID* SAY THAT--

FOSWELL?

THAT'S RIGHT, JONAH--

--FREDERICK FOSWELL JR., TO BE PRECISE!

AND IF THAT NAME SOUNDS FAMILIAR, IT'S BECAUSE I HAVE A *LOT* OF HISTORY WITH IT. NOT *THIS* GUY--

--BUT HIS *FATHER! FREDERICK FOSWELL SR.* WAS ONE OF THE BEST REPORTERS THE *DAILY BUGLE* EVER HAD.

HE EVEN ALMOST FIGURED OUT I WAS SPIDER-MAN!

HE HAD THIS TRICK OF DESIGNING ELABORATE COSTUMES FOR UNDERCOVER ASSIGNMENTS THAT IRONICALLY ENOUGH LED TO HIS DOWNFALL--

--SINCE THE *BIG MAN* WAS ONE OF THOSE DISGUISES!

FOSWELL USED THE TIPS HE'D AMASSED AS A JOURNALIST TO START BUILDING HIS OWN CRIMINAL EMPIRE.

HE EVENTUALLY GOT CAUGHT, BUT WHEN HE WAS RELEASED FROM JAIL, JONAH GAVE HIM HIS OLD JOB BACK.

SADLY, IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE HE SLIPPED BACK INTO HIS OLD WAYS...

...BUT HE DID REDEEM HIMSELF IN THE END, SACRIFICING HIMSELF TO SAVE JJJ.

FUNNY, THOUGH--

--SOMETHING TELLS ME THIS KID REMEMBERS THINGS DIFFERENTLY.

DON'T LOOK SO *SURPRISED*. YOU'VE BEEN AN INSPIRATION TO ME EVER SINCE THAT HORRIBLE DAY AT MY FATHER'S FUNERAL!

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TRIED TO TELL THE WORLD THE *TRUTH*...

"...THAT DAD *WASN'T* THE BIG MAN. HE WAS NO CRIMINAL.

"HE WAS A *GREAT REPORTER* AND A *CRUSADER FOR JUSTICE!*

"THROUGH THE YEARS, MY FAMILY WAS SHUNNED AND SHAMED. PEOPLE BELIEVED THE SO-CALLED 'OFFICIAL STORY.'

"EVEN MY *SISTER* STARTED TO BELIEVE THE LIES. SHE BECAME THE BIG MAN HERSELF, THINKING IT'S WHAT DAD WOULD'VE WANTED--

"--UNTIL HER DECISION COST HER LIFE.

"BUT I NEVER STOPPED BELIEVING! I FOLLOWED YOUR CRUSADE, SUPPORTED YOUR CAMPAIGN, READ YOUR EDITORIALS EVERY DAY AS YOU FOUGHT TO EXPOSE THE TRUTH--"

--THAT *SPIDER-MAN* WAS THE *REAL* CRIMINAL! HE WAS THE ONE WHO FRAMED MY FATHER AND RUINED HIS GOOD NAME!

SPIDER-MAN WAS THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS DEATH! BUT NOW WE CAN AVENGE HIM--

--TOGETHER! THAT'S WHY I HAD ALL THIS BUILT!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE'S DONE TO YOU--BLACKMAILED YOU, BRAINWASHED YOU--BUT YOU CAN *BEAT* IT! YOU CAN FINALLY GET YOUR *REVENGE!* HERE--

THIS IS THE GUN THAT KILLED MY FATHER. LET'S USE IT TOGETHER. THIS IS HOW YOUR STORY SHOULD END--

--BY ENDING THE LIFE OF THAT MASKED MONSTER!

GNFF--CAN I JUST POINT OUT THIS WOULDN'T EVEN BE THE FIRST TIME JONAH SHOT ME IN RECENT MONTHS?

DO IT, JONAH-- DO IT FOR *MY DAD!*

SIGH FREDDIE... POOR LITTLE FREDDIE. YOUR FATHER LOVED YOU SO MUCH...

WHAT HAVE I DONE TO YOU?

YOUR FATHER WAS A GOOD MAN, FREDDIE. HE WAS ONE OF THE BEST JOURNALISTS I EVER KNEW, AND HE WAS MY FRIEND.

BUT HE WAS ALSO A *CRIMINAL.*

"IF YOU BELIEVE ME ABOUT *ANYTHING*, BELIEVE THIS--

"FREDERICK FOSWELL *WAS* THE BIG MAN. I SAW IT WITH MY OWN EYES."

HE FELL INTO THE IDENTITY AND GREW ADDICTED TO THE SENSE OF POWER IT GAVE HIM.

HE TRIED TO GO STRAIGHT AFTER THE FIRST TIME, AND I TRIED TO GIVE HIM A SECOND CHANCE. BUT HE CRACKED UNDER THE PRESSURE AND RELAPSED.

"IT ALL LED TO THAT FATEFUL NIGHT WITH THE KINGPIN--

"--WHEN HE DIED IN MY ARMS."

BUT HERE'S THE THING, FREDDIE. *I'M* THE ONE WHO APPLIED THAT PRESSURE.

I HOUNDED HIM AND HARASSED HIM. I PLAYED TO HIS INSECURITIES AND MADE HIM FEARFUL OF LOSING HIS JOB AGAIN.

I TOLD MYSELF I HAD TO, TO KEEP HIM ON THE RIGHT PATH.

BUT THE TRUTH IS I WAS FOSWELL'S WORST ENEMY. AND EVEN *STILL* HE TOOK THAT BULLET THAT WAS INTENDED FOR ME.

SO IF YOU REALLY WANT TO PUNISH THE MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR FATHER'S DEATH--

--POINT THAT GUN *OVER HERE*, SON.

EASY, JONAH...

YOU'RE *LYING!*

I *WISH* I WAS, FREDDIE--

--BUT THE ONLY LIES I EVER TOLD YOU WERE ABOUT *HIM.* I TOOK THE TRAGEDY OF YOUR FATHER'S DEATH AND USED IT TO FURTHER MY SAD, SICK CRUSADE AGAINST SPIDER-MAN.

HE WAS INNOCENT. NOT JUST OF THAT, BUT *EVERYTHING* I ACCUSED HIM OF.

WELL, *ALMOST* EVERYTHING...

SHUT UP! BOTH OF YOU! THIS ISN'T POSSIBLE! BUT IF I CAN'T GET THE TRUTH ABOUT WHO KILLED MY FATHER--

--I'LL JUST *KILL YOU BOTH!*

I'M AFRAID I CAN'T LET YOU HURT HIM, FREDDIE--

--NOT WHEN I STILL GOT IT.

HUH?

HOLD STILL, SON...

NO!

BLAM

ARGGH!

JONAH!

UNFF!

YOU OKAY?

THAT SHOULD DO THE TRICK FOR NOW.

SIGH YOU'RE WELCOME.

GAAH! YOU WEBBED FREAK, THAT'S DISGUSTING!

HRRR-- NO, YOU MISCREANT! IT HURTS!

I TOLD YOU! HERE--

NO!

THWIP

I WON'T LET YOU MURDERERS GET AWAY WITH THIS! I'LL HAVE MY REVENGE--

--EVEN IF I HAVE TO GO DOWN WITH YOU!

SELF-DESTRUCT SEQUENCE INITIATED...

THAT'S NEVER GOOD.

CAN'T BELIEVE JONAH CAME THROUGH AGAIN...

IN HIS OWN DEMENTED WAY, HE REALLY IS TRYING TO DO HIS BEST.

GUESS NOW IT'S TIME FOR ME TO DO MINE.

THE BIG MAN, AS JUST AN IDEA, HAS CAUSED SO MUCH PAIN AND HEARTBREAK THROUGH THE YEARS.

SO MUCH *TRAGEDY.* WELL--

--I'VE HAD ENOUGH!

BOOM!

MOMENTS LATER...

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LITTLE FREDDIE...

HE NEEDS HELP, NOT A JAIL CELL.

I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO, BUT IT'S NOT LIKE ANYBODY LISTENS TO ME--

--GIVEN MY *PUBLIC REPUTATION* AND ALL.

ALL THIS DAMAGE I'VE DONE-- TO YOU, TO THAT POOR *KID*, TO THE UNTOLD MILLIONS SWAYED BY MY MASTERFUL WRITING--HOW MANY LIVES HAVE BEEN *RUINED?*

HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO MAKE ALL OF THIS RIGHT?

SIGH IT WASN'T ***ALL*** BAD, JONAH. YOU ARE THE SAME GUY WHO DID GIVE FOSWELL SR. A SECOND CHANCE. ***PLENTY*** OF PEOPLE WOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT. HECK, YOU GAVE ***ME*** A SHOT WHEN I WAS JUST A TEENAGE KID WHOSE UNCLE HAD DIED!

I'VE WATCHED YOU STAND UP TO MOBSTERS AND TERRORISTS. WATCHED YOU STICK TO YOUR PRINCIPLES EVEN WHEN IT COST YOU ***EVERYTHING.*** THERE'S PLENTY OF GOOD IN YOU. WE ***ALL*** HAVE FLAWS--

--EVEN IF YOURS USUALLY INVOLVE BUILDING KILLER ROBOTS AND FUNDING GENETIC EXPERIMENTS THAT WIND UP CREATING SUPER VILLAINS.

MY POINT IS--TAKE IT FROM SOMEBODY WHO KNOWS A LITTLE SOMETHING ABOUT MAKING BIG, LIFE-ALTERING MISTAKES, JJ. YOU'LL DRIVE YOURSELF CRAZY THINKING ABOUT WHO YOU WERE ***YESTERDAY.*** WHEN WHAT REALLY MATTERS--

--IS WHO YOU ARE ***TODAY.***

WHICH MUST HAVE GOTTEN THROUGH TO HIM, SINCE JONAH TOOK THAT ADVICE--

--AND PAID A VISIT TO HIS GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT.

--AND THEN MY OLD FRIEND JONIE--THAT'S MY NICKNAME FOR HIM-- SAYS TO ME, "WELL, WILSON, THAT'S JUST HOW THE COOKIE CRUMBLES!"

AND THAT WAS THE LAST TIME I'D EVER GET IN AN EATING CONTEST WITH J. JONAH JAMESON!

HRM. WELL... AS SUCH AN OLD FRIEND OF JONAH'S-- I MEAN, ***JONIE'S***--I CAN TELL YOU HE'S USUALLY QUITE PUNCTUAL.

AND WE CERTAINLY APPRECIATE YOUR PATIENCE, AS DO THE ARMED OFFICERS I'D LIKE TO REMIND YOU ARE "PROTECTING" OUR EXITS. I KNOW IT'S BEEN A LONG NIGHT--

WELL THEN, I'VE GOT SOME ***GOOD NEWS***, MR. MAYOR...

...THIS WON'T TAKE LONG AT ALL.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, HE'S FINALLY ARRIVED-- THE MAN OF THE HOUR HIMSELF, ***J. JONAH JAMESON!***

CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

BUT JONAH-- I THOUGHT OUR OTHER DEAR FRIEND SPIDER-MAN WAS SUPPOSED TO BE HERE TO INTRODUCE YOU.

HE WON'T BE COMING, FISK.

ER, JONIE... I THOUGHT I WAS ***VERY*** CLEAR IN MY LETTER. THE AWARD WAS TO BE PRESENTED BY THE ***WALL-CRAWLER***-- WE WOULD BE ON STAGE ***TOGETHER***, HIM AND TWO OF NEW YORK'S GREATEST MAYORS--

OH, YOU WERE ***CLEAR*** ALL RIGHT. YOU MIND IF I SEE THIS AWARD?

HM. YEAH...

I'VE GOT AN IDEA WHERE YOU CAN PUT THIS.

YOU'RE A CROOK, FISK. YOU'RE NOT A GREAT MAYOR. AND--AND--

NEITHER WAS I. WASN'T A GOOD NEWSPAPERMAN *EITHER*, IT TURNS OUT.

I ACTED LIKE I WAS SOME CHARISMATIC GENIUS WITH THE GOLDEN TOUCH.

I WAS A ***MEGALOMANIAC*** WHO COULD BARELY CARE FOR HIS OWN FAMILY AND WHO SPENT MOST OF HIS CAREER HOUNDING A POOR KID WHO WAS JUST TRYING TO DO A LITTLE GOOD IN THIS WORLD.

THAT OBSESSION COST ME EVERYTHING...

...INCLUDING THE WOMAN I LOVED.

SO YOU THINK SPIDER-MAN WOULD COME HERE BECAUSE HE *OWES* ME? WELL, NEWS FLASH, BUDDY--HE DOESN'T OWE ME A DAMN THING. *I* OWE *HIM*.

BUT EVEN IF THAT WASN'T THE CASE, HE *STILL* WOULDN'T BE HERE--BECAUSE SPIDER-MAN IS A *HERO*. AND *YOU*, FISK?

YOU'RE *NOTHING* BUT A *CROOK*. ENJOY YOUR MOMENT OF POWER, BECAUSE I CAN PROMISE YOU-- IT WON'T LAST.

WHEN YOU FALL, *HE'LL* BE THE ONE STANDING OVER YOU. AND HOPEFULLY I'LL BE THERE TO HAVE A GOOD LAUGH AT YOUR EXPENSE.

UNTIL THEN, THOUGH--

--THE CHICKEN IN THIS PLACE IS OVERRATED! OUT OF MY WAY, YOU BUFFOON.

WHICH I GOTTA ADMIT, IS A PRETTY STAND-UP MOVE FOR A GLORY HOUND LIKE JONAH. BUT UNFORTUNATELY FOR HIM--

--HE WASN'T DONE WITH THE VISITS.

THE NEXT MORNING

WELCOME BACK! WE'RE ASKING THE QUESTION--DOCTOR DOOM UNDER THE MASK, HOT OR NOT?!

HEY-O! I'D GET WITH THAT!

HONNNK!

WHAT IS-- WHO ARE THESE IDIOTS?!

I TRIED TO TELL YOU, JONAH... THE STATION HAS CUT BACK YOUR SHIFT. YOU'RE STILL ON AT TEN--

TEN?! THE SHOW IS CALLED *GET TO WORK WITH J. JONAH!* WHO ISN'T AT WORK BY TEN?!

I'M NOT BROADCASTING TO A BUNCH OF SHIFTLESS LAYABOUTS WHO DON'T KNOW HOW TO SET AN ALARM CLOCK. OR EVEN WORSE--***SHIFT WORKERS!***

I GET IT, JONAH, BUT--THE RATINGS JUST AREN'T THERE ANYMORE.

YOUR AUDIENCE WANTS YOU TO BASH SPIDER-MAN--THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE ***KNOWN*** FOR. THIS NEW APPROACH, THE STATION SAYS IT JUST ISN'T WORKING--

THE ***STATION?!*** THOSE HACKS WOULDN'T KNOW A HIT IF IT CAME UP AND BIT THEM. COME ON, BUSHKIN--

ACTUALLY, JONAH, ***I'VE*** BEEN ASKED TO STAY ON. AND I--

AND NOW IT'S TIME FOR THE FRIDAY MORNING ***FART SONG!***

--I THINK THESE GENTLEMEN ARE VERY ENTERTAINING.

WOW, HOW THE MIGHTY HAVE FALLEN...

...LOOKS LIKE I GOT HERE JUST IN TIME.

HEY, JONAH. REMEMBER YOUR OLD PAL, ***NORAH WINTERS?***

AND THERE SHE WAS--THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS FUTURE.

MEANWHILE...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "IF I DON'T GET PAID, YOU DON'T GET PAID?"

WE HAD A *DEAL*, ARCADE! I NEED THAT MONEY! I--

BOOP BOOP

BABY? HEY, NO--I'M ON THE OTHER LINE. LISTEN, I--I THINK WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO CANCEL THE ST. LUCIA TRIP.

NO, I KNOW--IT'S JUST A LITTLE FUNDS SITUATION, NOTHING PERMANENT.

THAT'S WHAT I'M ON THE OTHER LINE ABOUT!

NO!

YES, I *KNOW* WE'RE GONNA LOSE THE DEPOSIT! WHY DO YOU THINK I--

RAAAAARRRR!

I HEAR YA, PAL--

--RELATIONSHIPS ARE HARD.

WHY I STICK TO eHARMONY.

WHAT DO YOU TWO WANT?! YOU LOOKING FOR TROUBLE?! 'CAUSE SCORPION CAN GIVE YOU MORE THAN YOU CAN--

BLANG

HNNN?

RAAARR!

LET ME OUTTA HERE!

DON'T BOTHER. IF YOU *DO* MANAGE TO GET OUT...

...THEY JUST HUNT YOU DOWN AGAIN.

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FAMILY MATTERS PART 1

BAGALIA.

IT'S LIKE I TOLD YOU! I DIDN'T GET PAID, SO YOU CAN'T GET PAID!

TRUST ME, NOBODY'S MORE FRUSTRATED THAN I AM! DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH A VINTAGE FIRST EDITION SPIDER-SLAYER COSTS IN THE COLLECTOR MARKET?! THAT COMES OUT OF MY POCKET NOW!

WELL OF COURSE I TRY TO GET THE MONEY UPFRONT! BUT LOOK, I'LL LEVEL WITH YA-- IT'S A BUYER'S MARKET FOR ELABORATE DEATH TRAPS RIGHT NOW!

THE SAD REALITY IS SUPER VILLAINS THESE DAYS, THEY JUST DON'T HAVE AN APPRECIATION FOR THE FINER THINGS. IT'S JUST WHAM, BAM, SMASH THROUGH A WALL, GO STRAIGHT FOR THE REVENGE KILL--

IT'S BEEN TERRIBLE FOR BUSINESS! I GOT A WAREHOUSE FULL OF ACID VATS I'M NEVER GONNA BE ABLE TO UNLOAD. AND DON'T GET ME STARTED ON THE SPIKE WALLS--I REALLY TOOK A BATH ON THOSE THINGS.

SIGH NOBODY WANTS TO TOY WITH THEIR ARCHNEMESIS. YOU KNOW, STRAP THEM IN A CHAIR AND MAKE THEM LISTEN TO THE WHOLE BRILLIANT MASTER PLAN... IT'S JUST DEPRESSING, I TELL YA. MAKES YOU YEARN FOR THE GOOD OLD DAYS--

CRASH

--A SIMPLER TIME.

I'M GONNA HAVE TO CALL YOU BACK.

YOU--

--YOU ARE THE ONE THEY CALL *ARCADE.*

AND YOU'RE *KRAVEN THE HUNTER.* SORRY, YOUR CHEST HAIR PRECEDES YOU.

LISTEN, IF YOU'RE HERE BECAUSE YOU'RE SUDDENLY TRACKING DUDES IN BOW TIES, YOU SHOULD KNOW-- THIS IS ACTUALLY A CLIP-ON.

I DID NOT COME HERE TO KILL YOU, MR. ARCADE. I HAVE A *BUSINESS* PROPOSITION FOR YOU.

THAT RIGHT? YOU FINALLY WANNA UPGRADE TO ANIMATRONIC PET TIGERS? BECAUSE THAT REALLY IS THE SAFER, MORE ETHICAL CHOICE. AND LUCKY FOR YOU I GOT SOME IN STOCK--

NO--

--I WANT YOU TO *BUILD* ME SOMETHING.

SEWER

WE ALL NEED FAMILY.

THE PEOPLE WHO WILL STAND BY US NO MATTER WHAT--THE ONES WHO MAKE US WHO WE *ARE*.

WE NEED THEM TO SUPPORT US WHEN TIMES ARE TOUGH, AND TO KEEP US GROUNDED WHEN TIMES ARE GOOD.

YES SIR, WE *ALL* NEED TO BE ABLE TO GO HOME SOMETIMES--

--EVEN WHEN THAT HOME IS DEEP IN THE SEWERS OF NEW YORK.

--AND SSSO I SSSAID, I DON'T THINK THAT'SSS THE RIGHT FORMULA!

HA HA HA HA HA HA

HA HA HA

AND SURE, I KNOW THIS TAKES SOME GETTING USED TO.

AFTER ALL, FOR YEARS, THE LIZARD WAS ONE OF MY *DEADLIEST* FOES!

BUT THE TRUTH IS, GUY HAS COME A LONG WAY SINCE THEN...

HE WENT THROUGH SOME *REALLY* DARK TIMES. LOST CONTROL. AND IT COST HIM *EVERYTHING*.

BUT RECENTLY HE GOT A SECOND CHANCE. THE FAMILY HE'D ONCE HAD CAME BACK TO HIM IN THE WEIRDEST POSSIBLE WAY--*

*SEE THE CREEPY CLONE CONSPIRACY. --NAUSEOUS NICK

--OKAY, MAYBE IT ACTUALLY *DID* GET WEIRDER WHEN HE HAD TO INJECT THEM WITH HIS LIZARD SERUM TO KEEP THEM ALIVE.

AND THE THING IS, THE GUY IS *TRYING* TO PAY THOSE SECOND CHANCES FORWARD. HE RECENTLY GOT RE-ADMITTED TO THE FACULTY AT EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY.

SO WHAT DOES HE *IMMEDIATELY* DO? TRY TO GET ME RE-ENROLLED THERE AFTER I HAD MY ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS REVOKED IN A PLAGIARISM SCANDAL! SO YEAH--

--MAKE MINE LIZARD, I GUESS.

SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE REALLY ENJOYING TEACHING AGAIN, PROFESSOR CONNORS.

OH HE ISSS, MJ. HE WON'T SSSTOP GOING ON ABOUT IT--

I HAVE TO ADMIT, BEING BACK INSSSIDE A LAB DOESSS FEEL GOOD. WHICH YOUR BOYFRIEND HERE COULD TELL YOU ASSSS WELL--

--IF HE'D TAKE ME UP ON MY OFFER.

SORRY FOR DRAGGING MY FEET, DOC--IT'S NOT THAT I'M NOT GRATEFUL--

NONSSSENSSE, PETE--I'M ONLY GIVING YOU A HARD TIME. THE NEW SSSEMESTER DOESN'T EVEN SSSTART FOR WEEKSSS, YOU HAVE PLENTY OF TIME TO DECCCIDE--

YOU SHOULD DO IT, PETE--

--I'D GIVE ANYTHING TO GO BACK TO SSSCHOOL.

BILLY, WE DISCUSSSED THIS--

BUT I SSSTILL DON'T GET IT!

IT'S NOT LIKE I'D BE THE ONLY KID THAT DOESN'T LOOK NORMAL--THERE'S A WHOLE SSSCHOOL FOR MUTANT KIDS--

YOU'RE NOT A MUTANT, BILLY, THAT WOULDN'T BE AN OPTION--

OKAY, BUT JASSSON DANFORTH SSSAYSS THERE'S A NEW KID IN MY OLD CLASSS THAT HAS HORNSSSS! HE'SSS AN ALIEN OR SSSOMETHING! AND NOBODY CARESSS--

AND HOW EXACTLY DID YOU HEAR THAT? YOU KNOW YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO TALK TO YOUR OLD FRIENDSSS--

IT'SSS A FAKE ACCOUNT! NOBODY KNOWS IT'SSS ME! I CAN--

NO!

HOW MANY TIMESSS DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU?! YOU ARE TO HAVE *NO CONTACT* WITH THE OUTSSSIDE WORLD! IT'SSS TOO DANGEROUSSS!

DANGEROUSSS FOR *WHO?!* FOR ME--

--OR FOR *EVERYBODY ELSE?!*

YOU KEEP SSSAYING YOU WANT TO PROTECT ME, BUT I THINK THAT'S A *LIE!* I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE *REALLY* SSSCARED OF, DAD--

--YOU'RE AFRAID I'M GONNA BE A MONSSSTER LIKE YOU!

I'M SSSO SSSORRY ABOUT THAT BACK AT DINNER, PETE. AND FOR SSSTAYING IN MY LIZARD FORM THE WHOLE TIME--

I KNOW IT CAN BE A LITTLE...

...DISSSCONCERTING TO SEE ME-- UNNFF--

--LIKE THAT, BUT--

--I TRY TO KEEP IT THAT WAY AROUND MARTHA AND BILLY, SO THAT THEY DON'T FEEL...WELL...

WE GET IT.

BILLY'S AT AN AGE THAT'S ***NEVER*** EASY-- BUT ON TOP OF THAT, HE'S BEEN THROUGH SO MUCH THESE PAST FEW YEARS.

ALL HE WANTS IS TO BE A REGULAR KID AGAIN. AND HE'S ***NOT***--BECAUSE OF ME. I SHOULDN'T HAVE BLOWN UP AT HIM--

DOC, COME ON, YOU'RE DOING YOUR ***BEST***. THIS IS A TOUGH SITUATION.

BESIDES, YOU THINK ***I*** WAS AN EASY TEENAGER TO DEAL WITH? TRUTH BE TOLD...

...I DON'T KNOW HOW AUNT MAY PUT UP WITH ME.

MAY PARKER. MY FAMILY. AND I COULDN'T ASK FOR BETTER.

WHEN MY PARENTS DIED, HER AND UNCLE BEN RAISED ME LIKE I WAS THEIR OWN.

PARKER

AND WHEN HE *PASSED*, SHE WAS MY ROCK. WITHOUT HER, WHO *KNOWS* WHERE I WOULD'VE ENDED UP.

FEAST

BUT IT WASN'T JUST *ME* SHE WAS THERE FOR--HER WHOLE LIFE, SHE'S BEEN PUTTING OTHER PEOPLE *FIRST*. SO IMAGINE HOW RELIEVED I WAS--

--WHEN SHE MET SOMEONE WHO WOULD DO THE SAME FOR HER.

JAY JAMESON WAS A GOOD MAN--

--AND TOGETHER THEY WERE HAPPY.

I HOPED MAY HAD FINALLY GOTTEN EVERYTHING SHE'D DESERVED FOR SO LONG--

--BUT IT WASN'T DESTINED TO LAST.

NOW SHE'S ALONE AGAIN--

--TRYING TO PICK UP THE PIECES.

MAY? ARE YOU LISTENING? THIS IS *IMPORTANT*--

--YOU'RE *BROKE.*

I HEARD YOU THE *FIRST TIME,* BRETT. BUT I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW THAT'S POSSIBLE--

NEITHER DO I, TO BE HONEST. I WAS JAY'S ATTORNEY FOR FORTY YEARS. AND THERE WAS *NOTHING* HE WANTED MORE THAN TO MAKE SURE YOU WERE TAKEN CARE OF...

...BUT HIS WILL WAS SPLIT ACROSS A *LOT* OF PARTIES, HIS PUBLISHER HASN'T EXACTLY BEEN FORTHCOMING WITH ROYALTIES SINCE HIS DEATH--

--AND ALL THAT WOULD BE SURMOUNTABLE IF HIS ESTATE HADN'T BEEN SO GREATLY DEVALUED BY-- AND I KNOW THIS IS A SENSITIVE SUBJECT--PUTTING ALL HIS MONEY INTO *PARKER INDUSTRIES* STOCK.

I'VE BEEN UP AND DOWN THE NUMBERS TOO MANY TIMES. THE REALITY IS--

I SHOULD START LOOKING FOR A SMALLER APARTMENT. OH, DEAR. WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S THE FIRST TIME THINGS HAVE LOOKED DIRE ON THE FINANCIAL FRONT.

OR THE WORST NEWS I'VE GOTTEN LATELY.*

I SUPPOSE I'LL JUST HAVE TO HOPE THE HOT STREAK CONTINUES--

HOT STREAK?

*FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN #1! --NICK

AH, YES, I FORGOT TO TELL YOU--I'VE TAKEN UP *ONLINE POKER.* A MAN I WAS WITH *YEARS* AGO TAUGHT ME HOW TO PLAY. HE SAID I WAS A NATURAL. TURNS OUT HE WAS *RIGHT.*

OF COURSE, I LOST HIM AS WELL, POOR NATHAN...

I'M SO SORRY, I DIDN'T--

NO, NO, NO, IT'S FINE. I DON'T TALK ABOUT HIM MUCH. IT WAS AN ADDICTION FOR HIM, A *TRAGIC* ONE.* I COULD TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT MYSELF--

--BUT I SUPPOSE, GIVEN THE CURRENT STATE OF THINGS, I SHOULDN'T CLOSE OUT THE ACCOUNT JUST YET.

MAY, I--

*SEE THE CLASSIC ASM #336! --NICK

--I AM CONTINUOUSLY AMAZED BY YOUR STRENGTH AND YOUR RESOLVE. IT'S EASY TO SEE WHY THESE MEN FELL FOR YOU.

AND I WANT TO PROMISE YOU, WE WILL GET THROUGH THIS--

--TOGETHER.

BRETT ALSTETTLER! HOW DARE YOU!

JAY WAS YOUR BEST CLIENT--AND HE WAS YOUR *FRIEND!* AND THIS IS HOW YOU REPAY HIM FOR THAT?

WHAT DID YOU *THINK* WOULD HAPPEN? THAT YOU COULD JUST TAKE ADVANTAGE OF MY GRIEF AND MY FINANCIAL SITUATION TO-- TO--YOU SHOULD BE *ASHAMED* OF YOURSELF!

MAY, PLEASE--

SAVE IT. GO FIND YOURSELF ANOTHER HELPLESS WIDOW, BRETT.

THIS ONE SEES RIGHT THROUGH YOU.

OOF!

HAHA! LOOK AT 'IM! GUY DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE HE IS--

P-PLEASE-- LEAVE ME ALONE...

COME ON! FIGHT CLUB US!

YOU WANT THIS TWENTY, RIGHT? DO IT!

OH HEAVENS--

--THIS DOESN'T LOOK GOOD.

MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS, GRANDMA!

YEAH, COME ON LADY, WE'RE JUST TRYING TO HAVE A LITTLE FUN--

AH, YES, OF COURSE. YOUNG PEOPLE NEED TO BE ALLOWED TO HAVE THEIR FUN.

I HAVE A NEPHEW ABOUT YOUR AGE, ACTUALLY. HE HAS A ***DIFFERENT*** IDEA OF FUN. LOVES SCIENCE, BUILDING THINGS. EVEN HAD HIS OWN COMPANY FOR A WHILE.

THAT DIDN'T WORK OUT, SADLY, BUT I STILL HAVE SOME OF THE THINGS HE INVENTED. ***KEEPSAKES,*** IF YOU WILL. IF I COULD JUST FIND THIS ONE, I COULD SHOW YOU--

AH, HERE WE ARE.

ISN'T THAT DELIGHTFUL?!

P-PLEASE, DON'T HURT ME--

OH NO, DON'T WORRY--

HOLOGRAPHIC PROJECTOR. MY NEPHEW DESIGNED IT AS A KIND OF NONVIOLENT SECURITY SOLUTION. DOES A GREAT JOB SCARING OFF WOULD-BE RUFFIANS. NOW--

--ARE YOU HURT? DO WE NEED TO GET YOU TO A HOSPITAL?

NO--NO, I'M FINE.

ARE YOU SURE? THAT'S A *NASTY* CUT ABOVE YOUR EYE--

PLEASE--

--NO HOSPITAL.

SIGH ALL RIGHT, THEN. IF YOU WON'T LET ME GET YOU SOME MEDICAL HELP--

"--THERE IS ONE THING I'LL HAVE TO INSIST ON."

MS. PARKER, WELCOME BACK. IS THIS GENTLEMAN BOTHERI--

THIS GENTLEMAN IS MY *GUEST.* AND WE'LL BE NEEDING A TABLE FOR TWO FOR DINNER, PLEASE--

--MR. ALSTETTLER OVER THERE WILL BE PICKING UP OUR CHECK.

YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO DO THIS.

NONSENSE. MY DINNER PLANS FELL THROUGH, BUT TRUTH BE TOLD I WAS DYING TO TRY THIS PLACE. HOW'S THE SOUP?

IT'S GOOD--

I WASN'T ALWAYS LIKE THIS, YOU KNOW. I MEAN, THIS WASN'T ALWAYS MY *LIFE.*

I NEVER ASSUMED IT WAS.

I USED TO EAT IN PLACES LIKE THIS ALL THE TIME--

THEN WHAT HAPPENED?

YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE ME IF I TOLD YOU.

DON'T BE SO SURE. I'VE SEEN SOME PRETTY UNBELIEVABLE THINGS IN MY LIFETIME.

NOT LIKE THIS. I'LL SPARE YOU THE GORY DETAILS BUT--

--BOTTOM LINE IS, ONE DAY, SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAPPENED AND MY LIFE JUST--ENDED.

AND WHEN I WOKE UP AGAIN, IT WAS *IMPOSSIBLE* TO PIECE BACK TOGETHER EVERYTHING I'D LOST. I WAS TOO LATE.

THIS--THIS STARTED AS A KIND OF DISGUISE. A WAY TO HIDE IN PLAIN SIGHT IN A WORLD THAT DIDN'T HAVE A PLACE FOR ME ANYMORE.

BUT THEN ONE DAY I WOKE UP, AND IT WAS JUST...WHO I WAS. AND EVERYTHING BEFORE IT--WELL, NOW *THAT* FEELS LIKE A DREAM.

I SEE.

AND WHO *WERE* YOU IN THIS DREAM? MAYBE IT'S NOT TOO LATE AFTER ALL--

I WAS A WRITER. A JOURNALIST, ACTUALLY.

IS THAT *SO?* YOU KNOW, MY NEPHEW--BEFORE HE STARTED HIS COMPANY, THAT IS--HE WORKED IN THE NEWSPAPER BUSINESS. *PHOTOGRAPHER.* SUCH AN INTERESTING LINE OF WORK--NEVER LACKING FOR--

RUMBLE

--EXCITEMENT.

K-THOOM

OUT OF MY WAY, GLUTTONS!

MAN, I ALWAYS WANTED TO GET A TABLE IN THIS PLACE.

WELL, THAT WAS A NICE NIGHT, EVEN WITH--

ALL THE UGLY AT THE END? THEY'LL WORK THROUGH IT ***SOMEHOW***. DOC CONNORS IS A GOOD GUY...

HE IS, YOU'RE RIGHT.

SO ARE YOU GONNA EXPLAIN WHY YOU'RE NOT TAKING HIS OFFER?

I NEVER SAID I'M NOT TAKING IT, I JUST-- I NEED MORE ***TIME***...

TIGER, COME ON.

IT'S ME.

SIGH. I DUNNO. I GUESS I FELT LIKE THAT PART OF MY LIFE WAS OVER. WOULD THIS BE A STEP ***BACKWARD?*** LIKE I SHOULD BE PAST THAT--

PETE, YOU'RE IN YOUR MID-TWENTIES. YOU WOULDN'T BE ANYWHERE NEAR THE OLDEST PERSON IN THAT CLASS.

OF COURSE I'D LOVE TO BE BACK IN A LAB--

--ESPECIALLY WITH DOC CONNORS...

...BUT YOU AND I BOTH KNOW IT WON'T BE THAT EASY. EVERY TIME I'M SUPPOSED TO BE IN CLASS, THAT'S WHEN ELECTRO OR SHOCKER, OR EVEN WORSE, ELECTRO AND SHOCKER ***TOGETHER*** (WEIRD THEY DON'T TEAM UP MORE) WILL SHOW UP!

NO, TIGER--

--LOOK.

I JUST DON'T KNOW IF I CAN GO BACK TO NEEDING TO COME UP WITH AN EXCUSE EVERY TIME I MISSED A TEST BECAUSE I WAS SUCKED OUT INTO SPACE OR GOT CAPTURED BY THE HAND--

PETE, STOP--

NO, I GET IT--BLAH BLAH BLAH MY LIFE IS SO CRAZY AND RIDICULOUS BLAH BLAH. BUT REALLY--

SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOUR MEAL, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

WHICH DOES LOOK *REALLY* DELICIOUS, BY THE WAY.

BUT WE'RE LOOKING FOR A BIG GREY FELLA, HORN ON THE TOP OF HIS HEAD.

WHICH *IS NOT* A EUPHEMISM, PROMISE.

WE JUST NEED TO KNOW WHICH WAY HE WENT OUT THAT BIG HOLE IN THE BACK.

GUY IS SURPRISINGLY FAST.

HOW ABOUT *YOU*, GOLDEN GIRL? YOU GET A GOOD LOOK WHERE HE WAS HEADIN'?

I DIDN'T SEE--

--BUT IF I DID, I'D BE SURE TO TELL YOU THE *OPPOSITE* DIRECTION.

MAY, PLEASE--

NAH, IT'S FINE, CAPTAIN HOBO.

SAY, LADY, YOU LIKE SWORDS? 'CAUSE I GOT ONE WITH YOUR--

THWIP THWIP

--NAME--

NO REASON FOR ALARM, FOLKS--

--JUST THE NEW YORK CITY RESTAURANT POLICE AT YOUR SERVICE. LET THAT BE A LESSON TO ANYONE WHO DOESN'T WASH THEIR HANDS AFTER USING THE RESTROOM.

ESPECIALLY YOU EMPLOYEES.

NOW IF YOU COULD ALL KINDLY--

AU--MAY PARKER?

WHAT-- WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE--

BRRUUUMMBBLLEE.

UH-OH. I KNOW THAT RUMBLE.

YOU THINK I WOULD RUN FROM *YOU*?!

THAT'S--

RHINO!

SPIDER-MAN! YOU ARE IN CAHOOTS WITH THESE MERCENARIES?!

CAHOOTS? *ME?!* WHEN HAVE I EVER CAHOOTED?!

AND WHAT ABOUT *YOU?!* I THOUGHT WE WERE COOL. YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE GOING LEGIT!

I WAS!

OH, REALLY? SO THAT LITTLE MUSEUM JOB WITH BOOMERANG--

FINE, NOT *ENTIRELY.* BUT THIS--

--THIS I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH! THESE TWO HAVE BEEN HUNTING ME ACROSS THE CITY FOR *DAYS* NOW--

WHICH CHECKS OUT.

I RAN INTO TASKMASTER AND BLACK ANT MYSELF RECENTLY, BACK AT EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY.

I'M STILL NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR ON THEIR PLAN, BUT ONE THING *I DO* KNOW IS THEY'RE AFTER SOMETHING-- OR SOMEONE--

--AND IT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE THEY WERE TRYING TO EXPAND THE OPERATION.

OKAY, THEN, BIG FELLA--I BELIEVE YOU. TEAM-UP?

TEAM-UP.

OH, I BEEN ITCHING FOR THIS REMATCH, WEBS.

LET'S TAKE IT OUTSIDE, THEN. LET THESE FINE FOLKS ENJOY THEIR DINNER.

LAST TIME, BACK AT EMPIRE STATE, YOU CAUGHT ME BY SURPRISE.

SWORE I WOULDN'T LET THAT HAPPEN AGAIN.

THWACK

SO I BEEN WATCHIN' YOUR TAPE--

THWACK

THWACK

--FEEL LIKE I LEARNED SOME THINGS!

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO DO, *ANNOY* ME TO DEATH, LITTLE MAN?

A SIZE JOKE?

EH, THAT'S FAIR.

BUT KEEP IN MIND WHAT THEY SAY, RHINO.

LITTLE MAN--

--BIG GUN.

CHOOM

THAK

NOOOO!

THOOM

15

FAMILY MATTERS PART 2

BZT

BZT
BZT

My mom booked the whole second floor of the club for us. You gotta come!

I can't! I'm grounded.

You always say that! When are we gonna meet? It's my birthday! My friends don't even think you exist :(

BILLY? CAN I COME IN?

UH-- JUST A SSSECOND!

EVERYTHING OKAY IN HERE? I PROMISSSE THIS WON'T TAKE LONG. I JUST WANT TO TALK ABOUT--

GOD, DAD, I SSSAID JUSSST A SSSECOND!

BILLY, I'M SSSORRY...

SSSORRY FOR WHAT?! KEEPING ME LOCKED UP IN A SSSTINKY SSSEWER LIKE I'M IN PRISSSON--

--OR FOR TREATING ME LIKE I'M SSSOME KIND OF FREAK YOU HAVE TO HIDE FROM EVERYBODY. HUH?!

SSSON, I DON'T THINK YOU'RE A FREAK--

BUT I AM, AREN'T I?!

LOOK AT ME! ALL I WANT ISSS TO BE A NORMAL KID-- HAVE FRIENDSSS, HAVE--I DUNNO-- FUN?!

BUT I CAN'T, BECAUSE OF YOU--

WHY DO I ALWAYSSS HAVE TO GET PUNISHED WHEN YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SSSCREWS UP?!

You're looking in the wrong place

SLAM!

NOW IF I KNOW YOU, YOU'RE ABOUT TO TRY TO KNOCK ON THAT DOOR AGAIN.

DON'T.

I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SSSAY TO HIM, MARTHA. OR WHAT TO DO.

THERE'SSS ONLY ONE THING YOU CAN DO, SSSWEETHEART. LET HIM BE ANGRY. TRUSSST ME--

"BY THE MORNING THISSS WILL ALL HAVE BLOWN OVER."

IT'S LIKE I SAID BEFORE, WE ALL NEED FAMILY--

Pleeeaaassseee come

I'M JUST PRAYING I HAVEN'T LOST ALL THAT'S LEFT OF MINE.

AUNT MAY--

AUNT MAY IS--

I WAS TRYING TO PROTECT HER--

I WAS TRYING--

AUNT MAY!

PLEASE BE ALIVE.

WOW. GUY MUST HAVE REALLY LIKED THE FOOD AT THAT PLACE.

YEAH, IT'S A REAL TRAGEDY--

MAYBE THEY'LL STILL SERVE HIM IN HEAVEN.

NOT...

THACK

THACK THACK

THACK

THACK

THACK

...NOW.

THACK

WOW, THAT WAS EMBARRASSING FOR YOU. I MEAN, YOU EVEN DID THAT WHOLE "I BEEN WATCHING YOUR TAPE" THING. DID IT FEEL EMBARRASSING FOR *YOU?*

SHUT UP, ANT. WEBS WASN'T THE JOB ANYWAY--

WE GOT WHAT WE CAME FOR.

ARGH!

SPIDER-MAN! HELP ME! PLEASE! I--I THOUGHT YOU WERE MY FRIEND! SPIDER-MAN, PLEASE--

AND NO, IT ISN'T EASY IGNORING RHINO'S CRIES--

DAMN YOU, SPIDER-MAN. I WILL NEVER *FORGIVE* YOU FOR THIS! DO YOU *HEAR ME?!* I WILL *NEVER*--

IN FACT, I'M SURE IT'LL COME BACK TO HAUNT ME. BUT HE'S A BIG TOUGH GUY WHO CAN FEND FOR HIMSELF--

MAY NEEDS ME!

I MIGHT BE TOO LATE. SHE MIGHT ALREADY BE DEAD...

NO, CAN'T THINK LIKE THAT. BUT EVEN IF SHE ISN'T, SHE'S INSIDE THIS BURNING BUILDING. TRAPPED AND--

TRAPPED AND--

HELPLESS?!

KEEP DIGGING THROUGH, TRY TO GET THOSE VENTS CLEAR--WE NEED TO GET MORE AIR IN HERE BEFORE THE SMOKE GETS TO BE TOO MUCH--

AND YEAH, OF COURSE I FEEL EVERYTHING. RELIEF, HAPPINESS. SURPRISE.

NOW, SOMEONE COME OVER HERE AND PUT PRESSURE ON THIS WOUND, SO I CAN GO CHECK--

ON THAT *DESSERT?* I KNOW--

--WHAT'S TAKING SO LONG BACK THERE? TALK ABOUT KITCHEN NIGHTMARES.

SPIDER-MAN!

MAY PARKER-- LONG TIME NO SEE! BUT HEY, MUCH AS I'D LIKE TO CATCH UP WITH A LITTLE FIRESIDE CHAT--

--WE REALLY NEED TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE! I KNOW FOR A FACT YOU'RE ABOUT TO MISS YOUR TRAIN, LADY!

I APPRECIATE THE OFFER, YOUNG MAN, I REALLY DO--BUT IF WE'RE GOING TO START GETTING PEOPLE CLEAR OF THIS MESS--

--WE CERTAINLY WON'T BE STARTING WITH *ME.*

BUT TRUTH IS NONE OF THIS SHOULD BE A SURPRISE. BECAUSE HERE'S THE *THING*--

--I TALK A LOT ABOUT MY ***UNCLE BEN.*** HOW HIS EXAMPLE GAVE ME A SENSE OF PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY.

BUT EVERYTHING I LEARNED ABOUT TRYING TO BE WHATEVER A ***HERO*** IS--

--ABOUT PUTTING ***OTHERS*** IN FRONT OF YOURSELF--

OOF!

--ABOUT ***NEVER*** GIVING UP?

THAT I LEARNED FROM THIS WOMAN.

SURE, I'VE LET HER DOWN TOO MANY TIMES TO COUNT, BUT TODAY--

--TODAY, I REFUSE TO FAIL HER.

TODAY ALL THOSE LESSONS *PAY OFF.*

THWIP

THWIP

THWIP

ALL RIGHT, PEOPLE-- START CLIMBING!

THAT'S IT, COME ON, EVERYBODY UP!

OKAY, LADY, NOW THAT WE'RE ALL CLEAR OTHERWISE--

--YOU AND YOUR FRIEND THERE GONNA LET ME RESCUE YOU OR WHAT?

YOU KNOW, I THINK HE HAS A POINT. LOOKS LIKE WE'RE ALL--

--ALSTETTLER.

SPIDER-MAN, THERE'S ONE MORE!

KIND SIR, WOULD YOU MIND GIVING ME A HAND WITH THIS GENTLEMAN HERE?

O-OF COURSE--

WE SHOULD HURRY, THOUGH. I DON'T THINK WE'VE GOT MUCH MORE TIME BEFORE THAT CEILING STARTS TO--

CRACK

MAY!

LOOK OUT!

KRNCHH

SPIDER-MAN-- HE--

I KNOW. DON'T WORRY.

I'LL FIND HIM.

POOR MAY...

I ALREADY KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENED. IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S THE *FIRST* TIME SHE'S DONE THIS.

SHE'S ALWAYS TAKING PEOPLE IN OFF THE STREET, TRYING TO *HELP* THEM.

LIKE THIS POOR GUY HERE WHO RETURNED THE FAVOR BY SAVING HER LIFE.

LOOKS BAD. DON'T THINK HE'S GONNA MAKE IT.

CREEEK

THWIP THWIP

PART 3

SHE'S ALREADY LOST *SO MUCH.* I KNOW THIS WILL HURT HER--

IT WON'T MATTER THAT HE'S A PERFECT STRANGER, SOMEONE SHE DIDN'T EVEN--

NED?

NED LEEDS?!

MAY MIGHT NOT KNOW WHO THIS IS, BUT *I* SURE DO!

WE STARTED OUT AS RIVALS AT THE *DAILY BUGLE*. HE WAS A REPORTER, I WAS A PHOTOGRAPHER--BUT WE BOTH HAD A THING FOR THE SAME GIRL, ***BETTY BRANT.***

OVER THE YEARS, THOUGH, WE BECAME GOOD FRIENDS. AND NO ONE WAS HAPPIER THAN ME WHEN HE AND BETTY GOT MARRIED.

IT WAS DOOMED FROM THE START, THOUGH. AND NED MET A FATEFUL END--FRAMED AS THE HOBGOBLIN BY RODERICK KINGSLEY.

BUT JUST LIKE THE CONNORS FAMILY, HE GOT A NEW SHOT AT LIFE WHEN THE JACKAL CLONED HIM.

I THOUGHT HE'D DIED ALREADY WHEN MOST OF THOSE CLONES, *UM*, MELTED. BUT I GUESS HE SURVIVED THAT, TOO--

WISH HIS LUCK COULD'VE HELD A LITTLE LONGER.

S-SPIDER-MAN...

YEAH, IT'S ME, NED. I'M HERE.

I COULDN'T--
I--OH GOD--

BETTY! YOU HAVE TO PROTECT HER--

I WILL.

NO, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! SHE-- SHE--

BETTY...

NED IS NEVER IDENTIFIED, SEEING AS THERE'S NO RECORD OF HIM BEING ALIVE IN THE *FIRST* PLACE. BUT MAY DOES HER BEST BY HIM, DESPITE HER LIMITED FUNDS.

I THOUGHT A LOT ABOUT CALLING BETTY AND TELLING HER, BUT SHE'S IN EUROPE ON ASSIGNMENT. AND THING IS, SHE NEVER EVEN KNEW HE'D BEEN CLONED TO *BEGIN* WITH.

TO MAKE HER GO THROUGH LOSING HIM AGAIN LIKE THIS--JUST SEEMS *CRUEL.*

BUT I HAVE NO IDEA IF THAT'S THE RIGHT DECISION OR NOT, IF I'M HONEST.

I WISH I COULD ASK AUNT MAY. SHE'D KNOW WHAT TO DO.

SHE *ALWAYS* KNOWS WHAT TO DO. BUT THEN--

--I CAN TELL SHE'S GOT SOMETHING ELSE ON HER MIND.

HELLO?

AUNT MAY?

RANDY! OH GOOD, YOU'RE HERE.

I WAS HOPING YOU COULD GIVE ME A HAND.

WHEN YOU TEXTED ME THIS ADDRESS, I WASN'T SURE--ARE WE EVEN *ALLOWED* TO BE HERE?

OH, OF COURSE-- I ACTUALLY STILL HAVE MY KEYS. I USED TO VOLUNTEER HERE, YOU KNOW...

THE F.E.A.S.T. CENTER. WE DID GOOD WORK IN THIS PLACE FEEDING AND SHELTERING THOSE IN NEED, HELPING TO GIVE THEM A HAND UP. I LOVED EVERY SECOND OF IT.

F.E.A.S.T.

TRUTH IS, MARTIN LI CREATED SOMETHING *WONDERFUL* BETWEEN THESE WALLS--

"--BEFORE HE SUCCUMBED TO HIS *DEMONS*, THAT IS."

THAT'S GREAT, BUT I STILL DON'T GET--

YOU *HAVE* A DEGREE IN SOCIAL WORK. BUT YOU HAVEN'T BEEN PUTTING IT TO USE, HAVE YOU? WELL, THAT'S ABOUT TO *CHANGE*.

IT IS?

IT SURE IS. YOU AND ME, RANDY--

--WE ARE GOING TO *REBUILD* THIS PLACE.

WHICH IS CLASSIC MAY PARKER--MAKE A PLAN, AND DON'T TAKE *NO* FOR AN ANSWER. IT'S ALWAYS WORKED FOR HER--

My mom booked the whole second floor of the club for us. You gotta come!

I can't! I'm grounded.

You always say that! Then are we gonna do? It's my birthday! My friends don't even think you exist :(

Pleeeaaassseee come

--OTHER PEOPLE'S MILEAGE THOUGH? IT MAY VARY.

I'm in.

Whoa for real?!

Text me when you're at the door. I'll get you in.

OMW

ARRGGH! YOU'LL ALL PAY FOR THIS!

YEAH, YEAH, YEAH, WE'RE ALL GONNA PAY. MAYBE *YOU* SHOULD'VE PAID FOR A DECENT HOME SECURITY SYSTEM--THEN WE MIGHT NOT HAVE GOTTEN THE DROP ON YOU SO EASILY.

PEOPLE *ALWAYS* CUTTIN' CORNERS ON THOSE THINGS. DUMB.

HA HA, I LOVE IT!

VULTURE... *SCORPION*...SNAKE GUY WHOSE NAME I CAN'T REMEMBER...NOW *RHINO*--DEFINITELY PICKING UP A THEME HERE, KRAVEN.

IT WILL BE THE HUNT THAT DEFINES MY LEGACY, ARCADE.

SURE WILL, BUDDY. THAT AND THE SLIPPERS. BUT...I'VE BEEN GOING OVER THE PROPOSAL IN MY HEAD, AND I'VE GOTTA ASK--

--YOU SURE THIS ISN'T A LITTLE TOO MUCH CAR?

I DO NOT UNDERSTAND...

NO, LOOK-- I'M IN THE BUSINESS OF UPSELLING, BUT IT'S ALSO IN MY INTEREST TO MAKE THE PRODUCTION A *SUCCESS*.

AND FROM A SCALE PERSPECTIVE, THIS SEEMS LIKE IT MIGHT BE *OVERKILL*.

BUT YOU HAVE THE TECHNOLOGY, YES?

OH, *ABSOLUTELY*-- YOU'RE IN LUCK--

YOU'RE IN THE COMPANY OF THE ONE MAN WHO STILL HAS THE BLUEPRINTS FOR THE RED GHOST'S PLANETARY DEFENSE SHIELD TECHNOLOGY THESE DAYS.

AFTER HYDRA USED IT TO TRAP CAPTAIN MARVEL AND ALPHA FLIGHT OUTSIDE IT DURING THEIR WHOLE TAKEOVER THING, THE GOVERNMENT'S BEEN REALLY BUSY TRYING TO WIPE EVERY COPY OF THE PLANS OFF THE MAP--

--BUT I HAPPEN TO KNOW A GUY WHO KNOWS A GUY. WHO KNOWS A GUY.

HMM--AND THIS SHIELD--

WILL TAKE ANYTHING YOU CAN THROW AT IT. IT STOOD UP TO A THOR, A NOVA, A HYPERION--UNLESS YOU GOT A PAIR OF QUANTUM BANDS LAYING AROUND, IT'LL GET YOU SOME PRIVACY, DON'T WORRY.

AND YOU CAN ADJUST THE SCALE?

EASY PEASY. ***TRUST*** ME, BOSS, I THINK THIS IS A MORE-THAN-ADEQUATE HOME SECURITY SOLUTION FOR A TINY AFRICAN TERRITORY.

HH. YOU MISUNDERSTAND, ARCADE.

THE SHIELD WILL NOT BE BUILT AROUND MY KINGDOM--

"--BUT THEIRS."

TO BE CONTINUED!

#11 ANIMATION VARIANT

#12 VARIANT BY SHOGO AOKI

#15 SKRULLS VARIANT BY LEE GARBETT

#11 CONAN VS. VARIANT
BY GIUSEPPE CAMUNCOLI & DAVID CURIEL

#12 CONAN VS. VARIANT
BY MARK BAGLEY, JOHN DELL & DAVE McCAIG

#14 CONAN VS. VARIANT
BY GREG LAND

"There's enough new and different at work to keep things feeling fresh and exciting."
– IGN

IS THE WORLD READY FOR A PRO-SPIDER-MAN J. JONAH JAMESON?!

J. JONAH JAMESON HAS A NEW JOB – as a shock jock. Spidey's post-secret-identity relationship with Jonah was already complicated, but this very controversial public embrace may put him over the edge! Which means it's bad timing for the Enforcers to come at him harder than ever! But Spidey isn't the only one getting attacked. Jonah himself is in deep trouble. Who, other than most of New York, would want to punish J. Jonah Jameson? Aunt May is in danger as well, and only Spider-Man can help her! You may think you know where a story like this is going, but you don't. Because Taskmaster and Black Ant are on the scene, and they don't have a problem with collateral damage!

COLLECTING ***AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (2018) #11-15*** – BY NICK SPENCER, RYAN OTTLEY, CHRIS BACHALO, CLIFF RATHBURN, AL VEY, LIVESAY, TIM TOWNSEND, WAYNE FAUCHER, VICTOR OLAZABA, LAURA MARTIN AND ANDREW CROSSLEY.

T

MARVEL

ZONE